(b) to (d) The required details to the extent available will be collected and laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

Disputes over assessed amounts

2855. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2098 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 1988 and state:

(a) when were the amounts in respect of Dipyradamol, Doxycycline and Rifampicin assessed against each company and when were the disputes raised, and

(b) what are the details of these disputes?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Notices for recovery of amount were issued between 1984 and 1987. The pleas were raised subsequent to the notices issued in these cases.

(b) The following pleas have been made in these cases:

(i) Rise in prices of the drug subsequent to 1984 was not taken into account.

(ii) Fall in prices were already passed on to the consumers by selling the formulations at lower prices.

(iii) Set-off to be allowed for the losses incurred due to non-revision of prices for a quite long time.

(iv) Set-off to be given for the increase in prices of packing materials etc.

(v) The vires of para 7 of DPCO, 1979 is doubtful.

Mark up on drugs

2856. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2097 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 8th November, 1988 and state:

(a) on what basis his ministry decided to give 100 per cent mark up on Streptopenicillin injection;

(b) whether it is a fact that the quantity of Streptomycin and Penicillin used for injection is the same;

(c) whether it is a fact that Saridon is not an anti-malarial drug;

(d) if so, on what basis this product has been taken as Category-I;

(e) on what basis Ibuprofen plus Paracetamol has been taken as Category-I product when this combination is used as an anti-inflamatory agent; and

(f) what is the present positon of these products?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) The required details to the extent available will be collected and laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

(c) to (f) These products were classified as Category I as per provisions of DPCO, 1987 since paracetamol was previously included in First Schedule of the DPCO, 1987. However, consequent to the shifting of paracetamol from First Schedule to the 2nd Schedule of upto, 1987, these drugs now fall under Category-II.

Import of Rifampicin

2857. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2099 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th November, 1988 and state:

(a) the reasons for not allowing imports of Rifampicin liberally at a price not exceeding $ 160 per kg. and import of intermediates at $ 213 per kg.; and

(b) what steps have been taken to rectify the position?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) Import of Drugs is regulated by the Import and Export Policy, 1988—91 which has been placed on the Table of the House.

Job of computerisation of trunk manual Exchanges

2858. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons that the Department of Telecommunications has awarded the job of computerisation of trunk manual exchanges at 26 stations to two public sector companies—Computer Maintenance and Keltron and the private sector unit PSI; and

(b) whether the order for supply of equipment and commissioning the first proto type at three selected stations by each company is placed to test their effectiveness?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) To improve the performance of trunk working in the country, the Telecom. Board decided to instal Computer Aided Trunk Exchanges at the Minor Telephone District Head quarters and a few State Capitals. Tenders were floated and 3 Companies *viz.*, two Public Sector Companies *i.e.* M|s. CMC and M|s. Keltron and one private sector unit M|s. PSI were shortlisted for the supply and commissioning of Computer Aided Trunk Exchanges at 26 stations, based on the cost consideration and meeting the technical requirements of such exchanges.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Price monitoring cell

2859. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Drug Companies have submitted the break up on non-scheduled formulations under DPCO, 1987;

(b) if so, the names of the companies;

(c) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has verified the break ups,

(d) whether it is a fact that monitoring cell is maintaining record and examining the break up of each;

(e) if so, the names of medicines where his Ministry has found MAPE more than 150 per cent;

(f) what are the names of medicines for which his Ministry received break up during the last two months; and

(g) what was the price before DPCO, 1987 of each and what is the present price?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (g) The manufacturers of Non-Scheduled drugs are required to submit details on prescribed proforma as per the provisions of DPCO, 1987. The monitoring cell constantly monitors the price movements of decontrolled drugs. As it is a continuous process and a large number of bulk drugs and formulations indifferent pack sizes are involved the required details are quite voluminous. The time and effort involved in collection of the same may not commensurate with the result likely to be achieved.

Public call offices in Assam

2860. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of public call offices in Assam is unsatisfactory;